

up along side o' Lucy, and she talked and joked and laughed with him, jest as ef no such a man as me had never been born. Well, for me, I reckon I stood it purty well for a while; but I felt Satan coming into me as I husked; and sometimes pitched the corn on to the pile, and sometimes over my head amongst the stalks and husks—for some how blood war dancing afore my eyes, and I couldnt alays see right well what I war doing. At last the boys and the gals all around me began to titter and laugh, and nod and wink, and I knowed it war all about me. Still I husked away, and didnt say nothing often and then alays something sharp and sassy. Now, ef Pete had jest a minded his own business and treated Lucy respectful, and hadnt sail nothing aggravating to me, its like he mought be living now to laugh over his triumph; but he couldnt be contented, the fool, when he war well off, and begun to ax ef anybody had seen anybody as had chawed a green persimmon lately, meaning me. All the fools, Lucy amongst the rest, laughed at this, and pretended to wonder who he could mean; and as I still held myself down, (though I felt the seat-gitting powerful hot, and seen little red things dancing afore my eyes,) he still kept on gitting wusser and more-pinted like, till at last he says, says he, 'I am the chap as goes in for ripe persimmons,' and he throwed one arm around Lucy's waist and drawed her over and kissed her. Now, boys, Ive come to a spot that is alays been kind o' blank to me. I dont remember gitting up—but I speot I did, for I remember finding myself standing up amongst a mighty excited crowd, with Pete lying down, his head all bloody, and a stove-in whiskey keg along side o' him, that all said Id jest smashed agin his upper story; whilst Lucy, all faint-ed and stretched out limpsy, war being toted by her father and two others, and follored by all the rest o' the gals, crying and screaming. The boys around now tuk different sides, and some said I war right, and some said I warnt. But I soon fixed the matter. Stepping out from the crowd, I says, says I, 'bet them as thinks Ive done right foller me, and them as dont, stay and take keer of Pete till he gits well enough to ax for a settlement with rilles, which I apose he'll do, ef he arent a coward. Well, as I said, the party divided off, and some went home with me and some staid and tuk keer of Pete. I got my rifle down and cleaned her, and run some balls, and filled up my powder horn, so as to be ready and not keep anybody waiting as mought want to hev the thing settled arter a gentleman fashion. By the time I had got this done, a friend of Pete comes over and says as how he'd spect me to meet him at a place named, at daylight next morning. 'I'll be tharf' says I; 'tell him I'll be thar, and give him sumthing wussern a whiskey keg git over!' Well, I was thar, and so war Pete, and everybody else round about them diggings, cept the women folk, and they'd a been thar, too, ef they'd only been allowed to come. It

didnt take long to fix things for the fight; for all we wanted war a level piece of ground and a chance to blaze away. Rifles at forty paces war the word in them times to settle all such trifles as corn; and arter measuring off the ground, they set me and Pete face to face, with the butts of both our pieces standing by our feet; and then all drawed back out of the way, and some one gin the word to fire. Up went our rifles at that word, and both pulled trigger at the same time. I felt sumthing queer about my neck, and putting up my hand, I found Pete's ball had gone through, within a hair breadth of my life; and I seen Pete at the same time clap his hand to his breast, and knowed by that he got sumthing to look arter too. But thar warnt no time to be spent in hunting balls, for it war a fight till death; and the fust man could git his rifle loaded now, would hev the best chance of talking about the muss arter it war over; so I went in for loading as fast as I could.

'Now, I claims to be some at loading a rifle, and youd better believe I done my best jest then; but in spite of all I could do, Pete got ahead of me, and I begun to feel that my time had come. Pete I knowed war a dead shot; and ef he could hev ten seconds for an aim, it war all up with this coon; and so when I seen him shaking in the priming whilst I war only ramming down the ball, I jest looked round to the rising sun to say good-by to daylight.

'I dont think I'm any more of a coward than any other man; but when I seen Pete steadily raising his piece, I'll own up I felt powerful queer; and ef the little-money an traps I had could hev bought me about ten seconds, I dont think I should hev waited long afore making the trade.

'Well, boys, that thar rifle come up slow and steady; but jest afore it got so as I mought hev looked straight into the muzzle, it war jerked one side, and went off in the air, and Pete Blodget fell down dead in his track, jest when two seconds more of his life would hev ended mine.

'As soon as I found he war dead, I knowed I'd hev to quit them diggings sudden—for he'd got friends enough to set the sheriff arter me, and it warnt pleasant to think of being cooped up in jail. So I broke round to Colonel Squire Waterman's house, and got a sight of Lucy, who war jest about as white as a snow bank.

'Lucy,' says I, 'youre a critter as has kicked up a good deal of mischief with me—but I forgive you. I come to tell you that Pete Blodget wont trouble nyther of us no more, and that I'm jest breaking for tall timber. Good-by, Lucy—I'm bound to quit—got to go—and on this here arth we will never meet agin.'

'I war going on with something more; but Lucy fell down fainty like, and so I left her and put off for strange parts. I got to the Massassip that day, and got a passage to St. Louis, whar I soon got in with some old trappers, and started out for the life I follored ever sence.'

'And what becoms of Lucy?' inquired one of old Rubs's interested listeners, as the trapper ceased, and dropped his head upon his hands.

'Ah me, boys! that's what I cant answer!' sighed the old mountaineer; 'and when a spell comes over me like thar done to-night, I generally sats and wonders. Ah! Lucy—poor, dear Lucy—nobody never loved you like this here old gray-headed beaver done when he war a kitten—never—never, Lucy—never! and the old trapper drooped his head still lower, and drew his rough, hard hand more than once across his eyes.

\$250 Reward.
 **STOLEN**, on the night of the 14th inst., from the stable in rear of Headquarters, a short **SORREL STALLION**, about four years old. Said animal has a sore on each side of his back, and hair trimmed very short on both hind fetlocks. The above reward will be paid, and no questions asked, if the horse is delivered at Headquarters Post. April 17

Pictorial and Gift Books.
A SMALL collection of **PICTORIAL AND GIFT BOOKS**, beautifully illustrated, suitable as mementoes of friendship and affection and as rewards of merit and excellence in academies, including the writings of some of the most famous poets. Apply at this office.

Bonds and Stocks.
STOLEN, on the night of the 17th February, \$10,000 Confederate 7 per cent. **BONDS**, in sums of \$1,000 each, dated March 3, 1863, signed by C. A. Rose, and numbered Nos. 20,024, 20,025, 12,110, 12,109, 12,108, 12,107, 12,106, 12,105, 12,104, 12,103.

Also, four Bonds, \$1,000, 8 per cent.; numbers will appear in next notice.

Also, one Certificate, 8 per cent, for \$100, to the order of I. D. Mordecai.

Also, 70 shares of Capital Stock of the Exchange Bank of Columbia, S. C., in the name of I. D. Mordecai.

Also, \$1,000 in 7.30 Notes; numbers with the Assistant Treasurer, which will be published hereafter.

All parties are forbidden to trade for the above named securities, as application will be made for renewals of the same.

M. C. MORDECAI,
 Executor I. D. Mordecai.
 April 6 ths



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
 Columbia, March 27, 1865.

THE invasion of the State has rendered it proper that the Legislative Department of the Government of the State should be convened, that such measures may be adopted for the welfare of the State may require. And for that purpose, the members of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina are hereby invited to assemble at Greenville, on **TUESDAY, the 24th day of April, 1865, at 12 o'clock m.**

By the Governor: **A. C. MACKAYE.**
 Official: **W. B. KILGORE, Private Secretary.**
 April 1

All papers in the State will copy until the time for the meeting of the Legislature.